

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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15

ACTION OPR-02

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8010

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2984

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: A/PUB
SUBJECT: POST REPORT

REF: STATE 095961

1. AUSTRALIAN LAW, REFLECTING THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY'S ACTIVE LABOR UNIONS, SEVERELY RESTRICTS THE ISSUANCES OF WORK CERTIFICATES TO OTHER THAN THE COUNTRY'S OWN AND INTENDING CITIZENS. HOWEVER, NON-AUSTRALIANS WITH SKILLS IN CERTIFIED SHORT SUPPLY OCCASIONALLY CAN OBTAIN WORK THROUGH THE INTER-CESSION OF INTERESTED EMPLOYERS.

2. AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL HEALTH SCHEME, COMMONLY KNOWN AS MEDIBANK, HAS NOT AS YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED ON A UNIFORM, COUNTRYWIDE BASIS. SEVERAL COURT CASES, DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS OF PROVISIONS BY THE VARIOUS STATES AND THE DECISION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA TO REVIEW COSTS AND PERHAPS CURTAIL PARTS OF THE BASIC LEGISLATION UPON WHICH MEDIBANK IS FOUNDED MAKE IT DIFFICULT AT THIS JUNCTURE TO PROVIDE MEANINGFUL GUIDANCE ON THIS SUBJECT FOR INCLUSION IN THE POST REPORT NOW UNDER PREPARATION. REINER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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